

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the above amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 10, and 16 have been amended, claim 3 has been canceled and new claims 21 and 22 have been added. Claims 1, 4 – 14, and 16 – 22 are now pending. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested in light of the remarks that follow.

In a telephone interview on June 19, 2006 between one of Applicant's counsels of record and the Examiner Frederick F. Rosenberger, it was indicated that claim 1 would be allowable if amended to include a limitation that the controller device maintains a nonuniform temperature profile across the detector array. Claim 1 has been amended accordingly. Claims 10 and 16 have been amended to include similar limitations. In view of the amendments, therefore, the Applicant believes that claims 1, 4 – 14, and 16 – 22 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued.

Conclusion

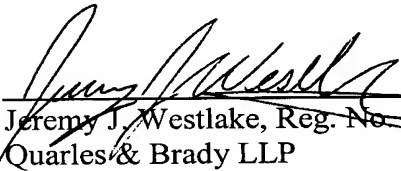
In view of the amendments and arguments above, the claims are now believed to more clearly define over the art of record. Hence, reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 1, 4 – 14, and 16 – 22 are respectfully requested.

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Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2006

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 that may be due on this application to Deposit Account 17-0055. The Commissioner is also authorized to treat this amendment and any future reply in this matter requiring a petition for an extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time as provided by 37 CFR § 136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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